

IX
Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health

1630/1

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1924.

BY

WILLIAM JAMES BUTCHER,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Worthing :

E. D. Paine, 28 Portland Road.

Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District.

SOUTHOVER,

LANSDOWNE ROAD,

WORTHING.

March, 1925.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1924, which I have compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 540 issued by the Ministry of Health on December 18th, 1924.

From the vital statistics it will be seen :—

- (1) That the death rate (7·7 per 1,000) is lower than last year (10·9) by 3·2, lower by 5·7, than the rate for the urban districts of West Sussex (13·4), and lower by 4·5 than the rate for England and Wales (12·2).
- (2) That the infantile mortality rate is 53 per 1,000 births as against 51 last year, 6 lower than the rate for the urban districts of West Sussex (59) and 22, lower than the rate for England and Wales (75).
- (3) That the birth rate (15·2 per 1,000) is 0·7 per 1,000 lower than the rate last year (15·9) 0·4 lower than the rate for the urban district of West Sussex (15·6) and 3·6 per 1,000 lower than the rate for England and Wales (18·8).

The most pressing sanitary need of the district is the provision of more houses for the working classes and I hope that action may be taken under recent Housing Acts to secure additional houses.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM JAMES BUTCHER.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) 1695.

Population (1923) Register General's estimate, 7329.

Census (1921) Population 7,269. Males to females, proportion, 1,000: 1036. Number of married women under 45 per 1,000 females, 217.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) 1298.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 1443.

Rateable value (1924), £38,958.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £154.

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births—Legitimate 108 (males 64, females 44) ; illegitimate 4 (males 2, females 2) ; Birth Rate 15·2.

Deaths—Total 57 (males 26, females 31). Death Rate 7·7.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth :—From sepsis 0 ; from other causes 1.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births, 53.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 0.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years), 0.

Infantile Mortality.

The causes of death and the ages of the six children who died under one year of age are as follows :—

Cause of Death.	Age.	Sex.	Remarks.
(1) Broncho - pneumonia.	1 month.	M.	Well cared for. Eight months child. Father suffering from tuberculosis.
(2) Premature Birth. Convulsions.	48 hours.	F.	Eight months child.
(3) Acute Bronchitis. Convulsions.	6 months.	M.	—
(4) Premature Birth. Convulsions.	5 days.	F.	Seven months child. Mother went out to work seven days a week for eight hours to within 3 months of birth.
(5) Premature Birth.	1 day.	M.	Twin. Eight months child. Mother in poor health.
(6) Premature Birth.	6 days.	M.	Twin to No. 5. Eight months child. Mother in poor health.

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	3	0	0
Scarlet Fever	15	5	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	1
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Other diseases, generally notifiable—Erysipelas	1	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever... ..	1	0	1
Other diseases, locally notifiable—Chicken Pox	11	0	0

Notes.

1.—The ages of the persons notified in the above table were as follows :—

	Under											Over
	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	2	6	5	1	—	1	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
C'bro-Sp'l F'v'r	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	1	1	—	7	1	—	1	—	—	—

The number and ages of persons who died from the above diseases were as follows :—

Erysipelas, one aged 57.

Pneumonia, one aged 1 month, one aged 42 years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...								
1	...								
5	...				1				
10	...		2						
15	...	1							
20	...		1						
25	...	1	3		1				
35	...	2	1						
45	...	1	1			2	1		
55	...	1				1			
65 and upwards					1				2
Totals		6	8		3	3	1		2

In addition one patient was notified who was temporarily resident in the district.

No deaths were registered of persons not previously notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two cases were notified; both were nursed at home and both recovered without impairment of vision, though in one eye of one baby a scar was left, clear of the pupil.

Comparative Statistics, 1924.

		England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	Rural	Shoreham- by-Sea U.D.
Birth Rate	...	18·8	13·7	15·6	15·2
Death Rate	...	12·2	13·4	11·1	7·7
Infantile Death Rate		75·0	59·0	63·0	53·0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate	...	—	0·71	0·62	0·54
Zymotic Death Rate		—	0·16	0·19	0·27
Cancer Death Rate		—	2·24	1·26	1·3

5. SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home. (a) General.

The Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council now employ as whole-time officers two district nurses (one of whom acts as a midwife) whose services for nursing in the home are available to all residents in the district without any charge being made. The County Council contribute £140 per annum to the cost of maintenance, in return for which the County nursing work in connection with maternity and child welfare and the elementary schools is carried out by the District Council's nurses.

(b) For Infectious Diseases.

The Council's nurse also visits and renders such nursing services as may be necessary, to all cases of Measles, Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough, Mumps and Pneumonia.

Midwives,

There are three midwives practising in the district; one is provided by the District Council and the other two practise privately on their own account.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The West Sussex County Council conduct a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at the Shoreham Town Hall, every Tuesday afternoon, the Hall being lent free of charge by the District Council. The District Council's two nurses conduct this centre.

Day Nurseries.

There is no day nursery in the district.

School Clinics.

A School Clinic is held twice weekly, Tuesday morning and Friday afternoons, at the Victoria Road Council School, a Medical Officer attending periodically. Children suffering from defective vision are treated at an eye clinic held at the Worthing Hospital, and those from enlarged tonsils and adenoids at the Brighton Throat and Ear Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

The County Tuberculosis Dispensary held every Monday morning at the Worthing Hospital is available for all residents in the district.

Venereal Diseases.

The County Council Clinics for Venereal Diseases are held at the Worthing Hospital on Wednesdays (women 3-4, men 4-5) and Fridays (women 5-6, men 6-7); and at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital for men on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-7 and on Wednesdays 4-6; for women on Wednesdays, 2-4, Fridays 10-12.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or the County Council.

1.—TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) A Tuberculosis Ward (12 beds) at the Worthing Isolation Hospital, Swandean, Durrington. This is provided and controlled by the West Sussex County Council.

(b) Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, the property of the West Sussex County Council (59 beds).

(c) The West Sussex County Council have an agreement with the Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester, to receive patients suffering from Surgical Tuberculosis at a fee of $2\frac{1}{2}$ guineas per week.

2.—MATERNITY.

The West Sussex County Council have an agreement with the Brighton Lying-in Hospital to provide 2 beds for abnormal cases of Labour at a fee of $2\frac{1}{2}$ guineas per week.

3.—CHILDREN.

The West Sussex County Council have an agreement with the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Brighton, whereby 2 cots are reserved for the admission of children under 1 year requiring in-patient treatment.

4.—FEVER.

Sufferers from infectious diseases who cannot be isolated at home are removed either to the Brighton Isolation Hospital or to the Hove Isolation Hospital, the Local Authority paying so much per week according to the nature of the case

5.—SMALLPOX.

The West Sussex County Council have entered into an arrangement with the Brighton Corporation for the isolation of cases of Smallpox at the Brighton Smallpox Hospital at Fulking.

Other Hospitals available for the district but not subsidised by the Local Authority though receiving fees from the County Council for work done under previous headings.

At Brighton—

Sussex County Hospital.

Brighton Eye Hospital.

Brighton Ear and Throat Hospital.

Lying-in Institution and Hospital for Diseases of Women.

Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children.

At Worthing—

Worthing Hospital.

Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children—None.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) **INFECTIOUS CASES.** When an infectious case is removed to an Isolation Hospital, arrangements are made with the Authority to whose Hospital the case is going, to remove it in their ambulance.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES. The Red Cross Ambulance Motor at Brighton is available for all accident and non-infectious cases. The charge is 1/6 per mile unless specially recommended, when it may be reduced. Application should be made to Chas. G. Yates, Esq., 9, Upper Hamilton Road, Brighton. Tel. Brighton P.O. 23.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

The District Council pay for the Examination of Throat Swabs or Blood Specimens sent by medical practitioners to the Clinical Research Association or the Ralli Laboratory at Brighton.

The following specimens were examined during the past year :—

	Total	Positive	Negative
Throat Swabs (? Diphtheria) ...	16	1	15

Adoptive Acts and Bye-Laws in Force.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

Bye-laws in respect to—

Slaughter-houses	Cleansing of Footways
New Streets and Buildings	and Pavements
Nuisances	Hackney Carriages
Pleasure Boats	Tents, Vans and Sheds

7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.—FOOD.

Milk.

There are 4 registered cowkeepers and 6 registered milk sellers in the district.

On the whole the cowsheds are structurally fairly satisfactory, but constant supervision is required to keep certain premises up to a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

One retailer is about to erect new premises, a second has during the past year moved into new and better premises, and a third has made improvements. The yard of one cowkeeper has been made up and improved in consequence.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders, 1885-1889.

No. of Dairymen (Cowkeepers and Milksellers), etc. in the district (Wholesale Dealers, Retail) ...	10
No. of these registered (Order of 1885, Sec. 6, (1) (2) ...	10
No. of Inspections of their premises ...	90
No. of Dairymen, etc. (Butter and Cheesemakers) in the district (Order of 1885 Sec. 6, (5) (6) ...	0

Premises.

No. of Cowsheds on Register	...	...	4
No. of Milkshops on Register	...	...	7
No. of Inspections made (1) Cowsheds	...	...	70
(2) Milkshops	...	...	20
No. of Inspections made during milking time	...	...	10
No. of contraventions of the Regulations found	...	...	8
No. of premises found to require—			
(a) Cleansing	...	...	7
(b) Structural or Sanitary Improvements—			
Yard insanitary	...	...	1
No. of these requirements carried out—			
(a) Cleansing	...	...	7
(b) Sanitary improvements	...	...	1

Water Supply.

Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops: Public supply, all.
Well water, none.

Designated Milk.

No producer has applied for a licence to produce Certified or Grade "A" Milk and no retailer for one to sell any form of designated milk.

Meat.

There are two Registered slaughter-houses in the district; both are old buildings and so fall short of modern requirements. Twenty-five Inspections have been made, and no contravention of the bye-laws were found.

No unsound meat has been found or surrendered.

Bread.

There are three bakehouses in the district, none underground. Fifteen inspections have been made; it has not been necessary to serve any sanitary notices, but verbal requests for greater cleanliness have been frequently necessary for one of them.

Other Foods.

No other unsound food has been found by the Inspector during the year.

Arrangements for Disinfection and Disinfestation.

All infected rooms are disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector with Formaldehyde Gas except rooms or bedding disinfected for scabies, bugs, etc., when Sulphur Dioxide is used as the disinfecting agent.

The Council have no steam disinfecter. In ordinary cases reliance is placed on hanging infected articles and bedding in the room to be disinfected and afterwards boiling them if practicable; in any special case arrangements for steam disinfection are made with a neighbouring Sanitary Authority.

In the case of houses in which a patient with pulmonary tuberculosis resides the infected room or rooms are disinfected after notification, immediately after the admission of the patient to a Sanatorium or other institution, or after death should this occur.

Sanitary Inspections.

In addition to the inspections referred to above under Food the following matters have been dealt with as a result of the Sanitary Inspector's other inspections during the year:—

PRIVY CLOSETS—

No. of existing repaired...	...	...	0
No. converted to pails ...	...	...	0
No. converted to W.C.'s	...	...	0

PAILS OR EARTH CLOSETS—

No. of new provided to replace old ones	...	0
No. converted to W.C.'s	...	6

WATER CLOSETS—

No. of new provided	...	...	...	0
No. converted from dry receptacles			...	6
No. supplied with water, repaired or otherwise improved	4

ASHBINS—

No. of new provided	30
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CESSPOOLS—

No. rendered impervious, repaired, cleansed, etc.	88
No. abolished and drains connected to sewers	2

DRAINS, DRAIN-TRAPS, ETC.—

No. inspected...	...	...	2
Nuisances abated	2

WATER SUPPLY—

No. of wells closed and public supply laid on	0
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INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

No. of houses disinfected	45
No. of Inspections made in connection with			.
notified cases of infectious disease	...	...	50
No. of houses disinfected	...	...	45

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecu- tions. (4)
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries)	8	—	
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	45	3	
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	
Total ...	53	3	

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness... ..	1	1	—	—
Want of ventilation	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors ...				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient				
Unsuitable or defective ...				
Not separate for sexes ...				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total	3	3	—	—

SMOKE NUISANCES—

No of observations	8
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Nuisances abated	8
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OFFENSIVE ACCUMULATIONS—

No. inspected	4
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Nuisances abated	4
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OVERCROWDING—

Nuisances abated	1
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KEEPING OF ANIMALS SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE.

No. observed	0
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COMMON LODGING HOUSES (None in the district)

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

No. established	1
No. of inspections	...	...	...	8
No. of Nuisances found	...	...	...	1
Nuisances abated	...	..	...	1

Summary.

Total No. of inspections made for <i>all</i> purposes	840
Total No. of notices served (Informal 118; Statutory 1)	119
Total No. of Summonses issued	0
Total No. of convictions obtained...	0
Complaints; Total No. received during the year	6
Found justified and dealt with	4

Health Visitor's Work.

The District Nurse has paid the following visits in connection with infectious disease :—

Measles	...	...	4
Chicken Pox	...	...	21
Pneumonia	...	...	35
Mumps	...	...	3
Tuberculosis	...	...	219

8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Public Health Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health (who is also M.O.H. to the West Sussex (Southern) United (M.O.H.) Districts, the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. A. W. Nye) who is also Surveyor to the Council, and the District Nurses whose names and addresses are :—

Nurse Lowe, Victoria Terrace.
Nurse Buzan, Gordon Road.

9.—HOUSING.

No. of new houses erected (i.e., completed) during the year	...	...	43
With State Assistance :—			
By the Local Authority	...	0	
By other persons—			
Subsidy 8, Loan 10	...	18	

23 of the 43 houses were Bungalows on the beach.

Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

No. of dwelling houses inspected	...	29
Total No. of inspections made	...	553
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were found	...	*168
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were rectified (i.e., made fit for human habitation) without recourse to Closing Orders, Sec. 17 :—		
(a) By Inspector's Intimation Notice	...	56
(b) By action of Sanitary Authority	...	0

Defective Houses : Position at 31st December, 1924.

(1) Actually remedied	...	56
(2) Works in progress	...	24
(3) Owner promised to remedy but not started	...	15
(4) Closed (a) voluntarily	...	0
(b) after Closing Order	...	0
(5) No progress made yet	...	73
*Total		168

Un-remedied Defective Houses at end of 1923.

Last year's report showed 112.

Of these 30 have been remedied and 15 partly remedied.
67 remain unremedied.

Defective Houses. Nature of Defects.

Cleansing (re-papering, distempering, etc.)	...	22
Structural (walls, roof, floor, yard)	...	60
Sanitary (closet, drains, ventilation)	...	24
Ashpits or Ashbins	...	57
As to water supply	...	3
Overcrowding	...	1
Other defects, accumulations, etc.	...	2

Unfit Dwelling-Houses : I.—Inspection :—

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	423
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	298	
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0	

(1) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	168
II.—Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	56
*(Exclusive of 30 belonging to the preceding year.)	
III. Action under Statutory Powers :—	
A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 :—	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit (a) By Owners ...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(c) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	1
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied (a) By owners ...	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909—	
(a) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
(c) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	0
(d) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...	0
(e) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	0



PA
has

Log Stats
to note
22.5-25
20/5
bars